Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /082 W

-----120526Z 009270 /14

R 110755Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1064

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEVBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 5332

ABIDJAN FOR AMBASSADOR EASUM

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, WA, SF, NI

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA TALKS: BRIEFING OF FMG BY CONTACT GROUP

REF: (A) USUN 1375 (B) STATE 103413

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF INSTRUCTIONS BY ALL MEMBERS OF CONTACT GROUP, CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER, WEST GERMAN AND BRITISH CHARGES, AND POL COUNSELORS FRANCE AND U.S. MET AFTERNOON CONFIDENTIAL

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MAY 9

TO COORDINATE APPROACH TO FMG. CONCENSUS REACHED THAT ONE MEMBER OF GROUP SHOULD BRIEF FMG ON BEHALF OF ALL. U.S. WAS ASKED AND AGREED TO GIVE BRIEFING MAY 10 TODIRECTOR MEA'S AFRICA DEPARTMENT AKADIRI IF HE AVAILABLE, OR TO HIS DEPUTY, IF NOT.

2. ACCORDINGLY, POLCOUNS CALLED AKADIRI MORNING MAY 10 AND,

EXPLAINING PURPOSE, REQUESTED APPOINTMENT. AKADIRI SAID HE WOULD BE UNAVAILABLE ALL DAY (FYI: HE IS TAKING PART IN ANGOLAN/ZAIRIAN TALKS CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN LAGOS UNDER NIGERIAN AUSPICES END FYI) AND SUGGESTED MEETING WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR. POLCOUNS SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED BY MARTINS AND AMBASSADOR MALIKI (FORMER AMBASSADOR TO ALGIERS).

- 3. NIGERIANS LISTENED ATTENTIVELY TO PRESENTATION, INTERRUPTING ONLY TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION THAT CONTACT GROUP INTENDED THAT SWAPO AND NUJOMA WOULD PARTICIPATE IN NAMIBIAN ELECTIONS. AT CONCLUSION OF PRESENTATION, MARTINS AND MALIKI MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:
- (A) PAST EXPERIENCE WITH VORSTER MAKES FMG QUESTION WHETHER THE SAG LEADER WILL KEEP AGREEMENTS HE MAKES. IT WOULD BE BETTER IF HE WERE REPLACED BY SOMEONE "MORE LIBERAL."
- (B) AGREEMENT OF SAG TO US INVOLVEMENT IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS IN NAMIBIA IS STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.
- (C) THERE WILL BE DIFFICULTIES WITH SAG OVER SWAPO PARTICIPATION IN NEGOTIATIONS GIVEN VORSTER'S REFUSAL TO SIT DOWN WITH NUJOMA.
- (D) CONTACT GROUP INITIATIVE IS WELCOME.
- (E) FMG APPRECIATIVE OF BRIEFING.
- 4. NEITHER MARTINS NOR MALIKI REACTED WHEN TOLD OF CONTACT GROUP'S HOPE THAT FMG WOULD USE ITS INFLUENCE TO ASSURE SWAPO'S PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE TALKS.

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5. COMMENT: FMG'S SKEPTICISM OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTENTIONS CAME THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR. SO DID NIGERIA'S PROTECTIVE CONCERN FOR POSITION OF SWAPO AND NUJOMA. NONETHELESS, MEA OFFICIALS APPEARED SINCERELY IMPRESSED WHEN TOLD OF SAG DECISION NOT TO SEEK PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF TURNHALLE CONSTITUTION AND ITS AGREEMENT TO UN INVOLVEMENT IN ELECTORAL PROCESS. CROSBY

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